

**CITY OF EASTPORT
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14th, 2016
SHEAD HIGH SCHOOL - LIBRARY - 5:30 P.M.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION - 5:30 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M.

<u> </u> Personnel Matters	Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A)
<u> x </u> Real Property or Economic Development	Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(C)
<u> </u> +Labor Negotiations	Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(D)
<u> x </u> Consultation w/Legal Counsel	Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 495(6)(E)
<u> </u> Poverty Abatement Application	Title 36 M.R.S.A. § 841

Those in Attendance: Councilor Roscoe Archer, Councilor Scott Emery, Councilor Jan Finley, Councilor Mary Repole, and Council President, Gilbert Murphy. Also present were City Manager, Elaine Abbott; Legal Counsel, Dennis Mahar; and City Clerk, Ella Kowal.

Council President calls this portion of the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

MOTION REPOLE **SECOND** ARCHER **(PASSED 5-0) TIME: 5:31 P.M.**
To go into Executive Session for Real Property or Economic Development under Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(C) and for Consultation with Legal Counsel under Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E).

MOTION FINLEY **SECOND** REPOLE **(PASSED 5-0) TIME: 5:56 P.M.**
To come out of Executive Session.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Those in Attendance: Councilor Roscoe Archer, Councilor Scott Emery, Councilor Jan Finley, Councilor Mary Repole, and Council President, Gilbert Murphy. Also present were City Manager, Elaine Abbott; Legal Counsel, Dennis Mahar; and City Clerk, Ella Kowal. Also in attendance was Shannon Emery, newly elected Councilor with her term commencing in January 1st, 2017.

Attendees in the Audience: Dale Earle, Hollis Ferguson, Meg McGarvey, Alex Smeaton, Shannon Emery, Lora Whelan, Robert Scott, Gerry Morrison, Larry Doak, Jon McNerney, David Chapais, and Judy East.

I. CALL TO ORDER - Council President called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Council President, Gilbert Murphy, opens the meeting with the reading of two proclamations. One for Councilor Jan Finley and the other for Councilor Rocky Archer for recognition of their service as councilors. The City Council thanks both of them and a gift certificate is presented to both of them from the WACO Diner.

II. ACTION from EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION REPOLE **SECOND** ARCHER **(PASSED 4-1)**
Councilor Archer voted "NO"

To give the City Manager authorization to negotiate a lease for the Port to allow for the building of floats for the inner basin at the Guilford mill building.

III. UPDATE on COMPREHENSIVE PLAN/SURVEY - JUDY EAST

She explains that she is assisting the City with a Comprehensive Plan in concert with the creation of an aging community action plan. It was done this way as there is a grant from AARP to do the age friendly plan and the data is much the same for the Comprehensive Plan. The committee has been meeting monthly since July. The chapters fully drafted at this point are population, natural resources, housing, and transportation. Employment and economy are in the works as is cultural and social resources and public facilities. The age friendly work is being focused on first as those funds need to be expended first. She speaks to implementation tables which cross eight different sectors – three of them are outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, and housing. Progress is being made on ideas for the way to make those age friendly. She comments to say that AARP is a wealth of resource. She further notes that if you design for the young, you tend to exclude the old but if you design for the old, you include the young. She notes of five implementations that are not always part of a comprehensive plan but that they are working on those tables and she references those are how to make your community age friendly across social participation; respect and social inclusion; civic participation and engagement; communication and information systems; and then community support and health services. Goals are set, they identify who benefits, those who are involved, identify the goals and the barriers to get them done, available resources and those needed, who may be impacted or upset, and then how it is going to get done. These tasks will be brought down to a level that is manageable. The committee has been working hard and is making progress. She speaks to the survey and updates that it has been drafted and that it is online and that it has been open since before the election and that it was initially set to remain open until November 18th but comments to say that it is still open. She takes a hand poll of who has completed the survey and then provides the link to those that may of not yet taken it. She believes the numbers reflect that a hundred have already taken it. She updates that audience polling devices were utilized today at the Senior Citizen Center. They were so appreciative of being asked and included. She also makes mention that there is immediate gratification as the results are instant. The committee's schedule is that they hope to be done by June, 2017 and the statute requires that a

vision be created and she communicates that they will post a public meeting for sometime in May in hopes to also achieve maximum participation to assist with the requirement. She also notes that they will revisit with the Senior Citizens in March/

April. She calls for questions or comments. Gerry Morrison asks if this is for the Eastport residents only. Ms. East responds that businesses are effective by the comp plan as anyone else and she believes that there is an area on the survey where comments can be made.

Councilor Finley urges everyone to take the time to take the survey as this project is very important to the City and also takes a moment to Judy East for her time and efforts.

Council President thanks Ms. East for coming and providing the update.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING(S) - Sale of City Property/7 Hawkes Avenue

MOTION REPOLE **SECOND** FINLEY **(PASSED 5-0)**

To table until the next Council meeting.

V. ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING(s) - THERE WERE NONE/NOT APPLICABLE

VI. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA - THERE WERE NONE

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Proposal from School – Re: Former City Hall Building at 78 High Street

Council President reads the proposal brought forth by the school.

Councilor Finley comments to say she is in favor but her concern lies with with putting financial burden on the taxpayers and she does not want that.

Councilor Emery recommends checking on the financial end of things.

Meg McGarvey speaks that it is understanding that they would be looking to get grants and outside funding.

Alex Smeaton notes that it is the hope it will attract more tuition students with new programs and that it would improve the curriculum of the school and also appeal to a broader audience which would ultimately payoff in the future.

Councilor Repole speaks to say the specifics should be worked out and done in writing.

Legal Counsel, Dennis Mahar, explains to Council that the City's insurance carrier will require such a document should it be the wishes of the Council to move forward.

MOTION REPOLE **SECOND** FINLEY **(PASSED 5-0)**

To approve pursuing the proposal and that Councilor Repole as liason will move forward to get more information relative to the specifics in more detail.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

a) Remove Restriction on Revolving Loan Heat - \$11,250.00

MOTION ARCHER **SECOND** FINLEY **(PASSED 5-0)**

To approve and authorize removing the restriction on the revolving heat loan and to return funds in the amount of \$11,250.00 back to the Special Reserve account.

b) Capital Improvement Plan

MOTION REPOLE **SECOND** FINLEY **(PASSED 4-1)**

Councilor Archer voted "NO"

To accept and approve the Capital Improvement Plan as presented and submitted by the City Manager.

c) Purchase & Installation of (3) ADA Compliant Openers at 22 Washington St.

MOTION REPOLE **SECOND** ARCHER **(PASSED 5-0)**

To approve the purchase and installation of three ADA compliant openers at 22 Washington Street for a cost of \$5,713.96 and that this service will be rendered by Downeast Overhead Door of Baring, Maine.

d) Amend Airport Improvement Project to Storm Water/Drainage

MOTION FINLEY **SECOND** EMERY **(PASSED 5-0)**

To table this matter until the City Manager has heard back from the airport consultants with solid information.

e) Reconstruction of Storm Water – Mitchell Street to Water Street

MOTION REPOLE **SECOND** FINLEY **(PASSED 5-0)**

To approve the reconstruction of storm water from Mitchell Street to Water Street.

f) Purchase of New Cruiser Requested by the Police Department

The Police Chief, Dale Earle, addresses the City Council and explains that in July they started with the repair of the 2013 cruiser. He notes that there was expense of close to \$1,000.00 for the inner and outer tie rods; the fuel pump and the module was replaced on two different occasions; the water pump was replaced in September which was an expense just under \$1,200.00 and we are now out of the warranty range. He comments to say that the cruiser is going to nickel and dime the City. He continues further to say that he has made the decision to have a day cruiser and a night cruiser to extend the longevity of the Dodge and the other cruiser which it has done. There is currently 32,000 miles on the Dodge and 104,000 miles on the Ford. He has researched the prices and the vehicle that he has chosen is a Chevrolet Silverado pickup, 4-door, shortbed. He has spoken with Dave Randall of Calais and they bought a Tahoe five years ago with the extra heavy duty suspension, breaking parts, steering components, etc. with

no repairs to that and it lasts much longer than the lighter suspension on one of their Ford Taurus' that they have. He has been quoted \$33,800 for the Chevy and has checked with Hight and their price was \$42,000. The F150 from Ford was just under \$44,000. He continues to say that they can go to Ford for the utility vehicle but that doesn't give them the use of a bed for barricades, picking up stolen property, etc. He also notes that when the vehicle is 5-6 years old and is ready to be traded in, it will give a return of \$7,000-\$8,000 instead of \$1,000-\$3,000. He feels it is a win/win on both sides and he is hearing from local police departments that they are trying to stay away from the Fords because of the lighter suspension and the better trade off of when they go to trade in a pickup at the end of their use of it. He understands that there is not much money in the CIP fund and he has checked and they are willing to lease at an expense of \$8,400 per year with a \$1.00 buyout at the end of four years. Officer Chapais speaks that he is in agreement with the Police Chief as he is the one who drives the vehicle and it is now a safety issue. Police Chief also notes that the 2013 cruiser is in need of new rotors, brake pads, and calipers.

Council President calls for discussion. Councilor Archer asks the Police Chief to confirm the amount of the year lease. The Police Chief informs Council that the Sheriff's Dept. is interested in the purchase of the Taurus for \$4,000. and the Port Authority is offering a donation of \$5,000. Councilor Archer notes that these funds would take care of the first year of the lease. The Police Chief affirms that that the high # of \$8,400/per year with a \$1.00 buyout at the end of four years was the lease opportunity.

Council President calls for any questions, there were none and Councilor Archer makes the following motion.

Councilor Emery comments to say he feels they should not do this that he believes that the Ford would make it for another year and that we should not burden the City with an \$8,000 payment right now and revisit it next year.

Council President reminds everyone that the first year lease would be paid for.

Police Chief comments to say if we wait, we would not get a return from the 2013 cruiser - maybe \$1,000.00. Councilor Emery responds they would at least get another year out of it.

Councilor Finley states that she is torn because of the financial situation and burdening the City with a payment. Councilor Archer responds to say that there is a good chance in the next year that same truck would cost us over \$40,000. Alex Smeaton speaks in support of the lease for the purchase of the cruiser for the police department. Councilor Emery raises concern about the amount of spending.

MOTION ARCHER **SECOND** REPOLE **(PASSED 3-2)**

Councilor Emery & Councilor Finley voted "NO"

To proceed with the purchase of the Chevy Silverado.

g) Council Liaison/Manager Updates

MOTION FINLEY **SECOND** REPOLE **(PASSED 4-1)**

Councilor Archer voted "NO"

To accept the updates as given and presented by the City Manager.

h) Council Approval of Consent Agenda

MOTION ARCHER **SECOND** FINLEY **(PASSED 5-0)**

To approve the consent agenda as submitted.

IX. COUNCIL ISSUES

Council President again thanks Councilor Finley and Councilor Archer for their service and that it has been

Meg McGarvey expresses her concern of not being able to have an Open Forum and asks why. Council President reiterates what was explained at the last Council meeting of 11/16/2016 and that everything can be handled through City Hall and should it be that a resolution cannot be met, then it can be brought forth to Council.

X. ADJOURN

MOTION ARCHER **SECOND** FINLEY **(PASSED 5-0) TIME: 6:45 P.M.**

To adjourn.